

Fuyug language

Fuyug (Fuyuge, Fuyughe, Mafulu) is a language of Papua New Guinea spoken in the Central Province of the country. The language's 14,000 speakers live in 300 villages in the Goilala District.^[3]

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Fuyug	
Region	Papua New Guinea
Native speakers	14,000 (2003) ^[1]
Language family	Trans-New Guinea? <div></div> <div>▪ Goilalan</div> <div>▪ Fuyug</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	fuy
Glottolog	fuyu1242 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/fuyu1242) ^[2]

Phonology

The usual orthographic convention used to transcribe Fuyug is to use *a* for /ɑ/, *e* for /ɛ/, *y* for /j/, and the corresponding IPA characters for the remaining phonemes.

Vowels

Fuyug possesses five vowel phonemes.^[4]

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Back</u>
<u>Close</u>	i	u
<u>Mid</u>	ɛ	o
<u>Open</u>		ɑ

The vowel /ɛ/ is pronounced as the diphthong [ɛɿ̯] when word-final as well as before a word-final consonant. For example, *ateg* ("truth") is pronounced [ɑˈtɛɿ̯ɡ] and *ode* ("where") as [oˈdɛɿ̯].^[5]

All vowels are nasalised before a nasal consonant, as in *in* ("pandanus") [ˈĩn], *ung* ("nose") [ˈũŋɡ], *em* ("house") [ˈẽĩm].^[6]

Consonants

Fuyug has 14 consonant phonemes.^[7]

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Coronal</u>	<u>Velar</u>
<u>Plosive</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	p	t	k
	<u>Voiced</u>	b	d	g
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	f	s	
	<u>Voiced</u>	v		
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n	
<u>Approximant</u>		w	j	
<u>Liquid</u>			l	

The voiceless plosive are aspirated in a word-final position and before /i/: *endanti* ("outside") [ɛ̃n 'dãntʰi], *oki* ("fire") ['okʰi], *eyak* ("return") [ɛ 'jɑkʰ].^[7]

The nasal phoneme /n/ assimilates before a velar consonant becoming [ŋ] : *yangos* ("rain") [jãŋ 'gos].^[8]

The pronunciation of the liquid /l/ is in free variation between a lateral [l] and a flap [ɾ]. However, with the exception of words of foreign origin where the word in the source language is written with an *r*, this is represented in the orthography as *l*.^[5]

Syllables

Fuyug syllables come in the shape (C)V(C)(C). There cannot be more than two consonants adjacent to one another word-internally and the only final clusters permitted are *mb*, *nd* and *ng*. Within a word vowels may not follow one another.^[9]

Stress

Stress in Fuyug is predictable. Stress falls on the final syllable in mono- and disyllabic words and on the antepenult in words of three or four syllables. Affixes do not alter the stressed syllable.^[10]

Morphophonology

Certain suffixes (notably the illative *-ti*) cause a change in the end of the word to which it is attached:^[11]

- *m* assimilates to *n* before *t*: *im* + *-ti* → *inti* ("in the eye")
- *l* is elided before *t*: *uwal* + *-ti* → *uwati* ("in the heart")
- Voiced plosives are devoiced at the end of a word when the following word begins with a vowel or a voiceless consonant: *enamb* + *fidan* → *enamp fidan* ("a road"), *asang* + *ukas* → *asank ukas* ("a lot of sand").
- an *i* is inserted between two consonant if the first is not *l* or a nasal: *ev* + *-ti* → *eviti* ("in the Sun"). With certain verbal suffixes an *e* is inserted: *id* + *-ngo* → *idengo* ("is sleeping").
- When a root with a final vowel has suffix or clitic attached to it that begins with a vowel, the first vowel is deleted: *ne* + *-a* → *na* ("he eats").

Grammar

Personal pronouns

Fuyug has personal pronouns for three numbers (singular, dual, plural) but not gender distinction.

Person	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	na	da	di
2nd	nu	ya	yi
3rd	hu	tu	mu

These pronouns can take four different suffixes: the genitive *-l* or *-le*, the emphatic *-ni*, the comitative *-noy* and the contrastive *-v*.^[12]

Numerals

Numerals in Fuyug are very restricted, having only *fidan* ("one") and *yovalo* ("two"). The numbers 3, 4 and 5 are composed of 1 and 2:

- 3: *yovalo hul mindan* ("two its other")
- 4: *yovalo ta yovalo* ("two and two") ;
- 5: *yovalo ta yovalo ta hul mindan* ("two and two and its other").

After five English numerals are used (numbers less than five often do so as well). The quantifier *huka* ("a lot") is also used after three.^[13]

References

1. Fuyug (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/fuy/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Fuyug" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/fuyu1242>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 2)
4. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 14)
5. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 17)
6. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 18)
7. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 15)
8. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 16)
9. (Bradshaw 2007, pp. 21–24)
10. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 24)
11. (Bradshaw 2007, pp. 24–27)
12. (Bradshaw 2007, pp. 39–41)
13. (Bradshaw 2007, p. 45)

External links

- ["Fuyug Grammar Sketch" \(http://www-01.sil.org/pacific/png/pubs/49610/Fuyug_%20Grammar_sketch.pdf\)](http://www-01.sil.org/pacific/png/pubs/49610/Fuyug_%20Grammar_sketch.pdf) (PDF).
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